

A few Gentlemen in the Western Parts of Derbyshire that get Lead, and Maulsters in Derby, (who design a Monopoly) do labour in the name of the Maier and Burgesses of Derby to get an Act of Parliament for making the River Derwent Navigable a little above Derby, and from Derby to the River Trent.

THE colours and pretences for this Act are advance of Trade of the Burrough of *Derby*, imployment of many People upon the Water, and preservation of High-ways.

These indeed are fair and plausible, but cannot with reason be promoted, if the present estate of the adjacent Countrey, and the many inconveniencies and mischiefs that will ensue upon the change be duly considered.

The Country many Miles round *Derby*, doth subsist much of Tillage, and most of that Corn is vended at *Derby*, and thence *Lankashire*, *Cheshire*, and *Staffordshire* are supplied with Mault, and all kinds of Grain which they have need of, and yet sufficient, and at reasonable Prises remains for the Inhabitants.

The pretence of imploying men upon the River, is frivolous; for there are more by many degrees set on work by the present Land-carriage of Lead and Corn, than can hereafter find imployment on the Water upon any occasion whatsoever.

As for the High-ways, it is but six or seven Miles that can be preserved, and not one person that is subject to those repairs, affects this Navigation.

Advantage to the ingrossing Maulsters of *Derby* this Navigation may be, not due increase of Trade in general; but a nuisance rather to the Markets of *Loughborow*, *Leicester* and *Nottingham*; for the Navigators will go down the River *Derwent* into *Trent* towards *Nottingham*, and there take in Corn at the Water-side, and carry it up to *Derby*, which otherwise would be Sold in those Markets: Besides, *Nottingham* pays yearly unto His Majesty Threescore and Three Pounds for the Toll of that Market, and maintains a Bridge over the River *Trent*, at the yearly expence of Two Hundred Pounds, which cannot be done if the benefit of the Market be lost, as inevitably it must be by this Navigation.

This Navigation will also be highly inconvenient to the South-East Parts of *Derbyshire*, in spoiling the Fords upon the River *Derwent*, over which the People pass to fetch their Coals.

Private Gentlemen, who have Mills upon, and Land by the said River *Derwent*, will be much dampnified by this Navigation.